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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

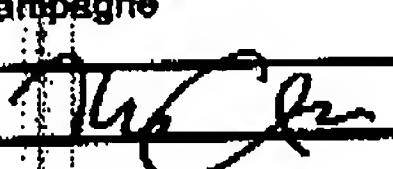
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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number     | 10/589,139        |
|   | Filing Date            | 8/10/2006         |
|   | First Named Inventor   | Ricardo Bordignon |
|   | Art Unit               | 2837              |
|   | Examiner Name          |                   |
|   | Attorney Docket Number | BONNP39           |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 34                     |                   |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |   |   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition   | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application    | Remarks   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |   |   |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |   |
|--|---|
| Firm or Individual name                    | IP Strategies<br>Thomas M. Champagne  |
| Signature                                  |  |
| Date                                       | 04/24/2007  |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING   |  |
|---|--|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. |  |
| Typed or printed name   | Heather L. Pagella   |
| Signature   |  |
| Date  | 04/24/2007   |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.6. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Application No.                                   | Filing Date | First Named Inventor | Atty. Docket No. | Confirmation No. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 10/589,139  | 08/10/2006  | Riccardo Bordignon   | BONNP39          | 5846             |
| Invention   |             |                      | Examiner         | Art Unit         |
| Supporting Element for String Musical Instruments |             |                      |                  | 2837             |

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

These remarks accompany an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-captioned patent application.


References #2-4 were cited in the International Search Report for the international application on which the instant application is based. Reference #1 is the U.S. counterpart to Reference #4, and is submitted as an English-language translation of Reference #4.

Please consider the disclosed references during examination of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

April 24, 2007  
Date

TMC:hlp

  
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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

04.11

### Complete if Known

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Application Number | 10/589,139 |
|--------------------|------------|

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Filing Date | 08/10/2006 |
|-------------|------------|

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| First Named Inventor | Riccardo Bordignon |
|----------------------|--------------------|

|          |      |
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| Art Unit | 2837 |
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**Examiner Name**

|                        |         |
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| Attorney Docket Number | BONNP39 |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | 3                        | DE-20219743U  | 03-27-2003                        | K.H.S. MUSICAL                                     | P.4 Lines18-36  | ✓              |
|                          |                          |   |                                   |  | Figure 5  |                |
|                          | 4                        | DE-10016746A  | 10-18-2001                        | PARK   | Par. 0022   | ✓              |
|                          |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |

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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 808. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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